

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for prepaid communications, comprising:
crediting a user account with prepaid credit;
~~detecting a predefined condition associated with a communications connection and deducting the cost of the communications connection from the user account;~~
~~wherein the predefined condition comprises origination of the communications connection from one of a plurality of predefined sources~~
receiving a predefined condition, wherein the predefined condition comprises a plurality of destination numbers;
receiving a communications connection directed to a destination number;
determining if the destination number of the received communications connection is one of the plurality of destination numbers of the predefined condition; and
if the destination number of the received communications connection is one of the plurality of destination numbers of the predefined condition, then deducting the cost of the communications connection from the user account.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communications connection comprises a phone call.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communications connection comprises a digital subscription line ("DSL").

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communications connection comprises an Ethernet connection.

5-6 (Canceled)

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising notifying a user of the amount of the prepaid credit.

8. (Canceled)
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising bypassing toll restrictions if a bypass code is received.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising accepting a code number to access the user account.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising terminating the communications connection if the predefined condition is not met.
12. (Currently Amended) A method for prepaid wireline, comprising:
receiving an origination number;
creating a plurality of user accounts associated with the origination number, wherein each of the plurality of user accounts is associated with a different access code;
crediting a first user account of the plurality of user accounts with a first prepaid credit amount, wherein the first user account comprises a first access code;
crediting a second user account of the plurality of user accounts with a second prepaid credit amount, wherein the second user account comprises a second access code;
receiving a proffered code ~~and an origination of a communications connection;~~
if ~~the origination of the communications connection is a predefined source~~ ~~and~~ the proffered code comprises the first access code, deducting the cost of the communications connection from the first prepaid credit amount; and
if ~~the origination of the communications connection is the predefined source~~ ~~and~~ the proffered code comprises the second access code, deducting the cost of the communications connection from the second prepaid credit amount.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising bypassing toll restrictions if a bypass code is received.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising deducting the cost of the communications connection from at least one of the first user account or second user account if the communications connection is long distance.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium for prepaid communications, comprising:

a first set of instructions for crediting a user account with prepaid credit associated therewith;

~~a second set of instructions for deducting the cost of a communications connection from the credit in the user account if a predefined condition associated with the communications connection is detected; and~~

~~wherein the predefined condition comprises the origination of the communications connection originating from one of a plurality of predefined sources~~

a second set of instructions for receiving a predefined condition, wherein the predefined condition comprises a plurality of destination numbers;

a third set of instructions for receiving a communications connection directed to a destination number;

a fourth set of instructions for determining if the destination number of the received communications connection is one of the plurality of destination numbers of the predefined condition; and

a fifth set of instructions for deducting the cost of the communications connection from the user account if the destination number of the received communications connection is one of the plurality of destination numbers of the predefined condition.

16. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium for prepaid communications, comprising:

a first set of instructions for receiving an origination number;

a second set of instructions for creating a plurality of user accounts associated with the origination number, wherein each of the plurality of user accounts is associated with a different access code;

a ~~first~~ third set of instructions for crediting a first user account of the plurality of user accounts with a first prepaid credit amount, wherein the first user account includes a first access code;

a ~~second~~ fourth set of instructions for ~~a second set of instructions for~~ crediting a second user account of the plurality of user accounts with a second prepaid credit amount, wherein the second user account includes a second access code;

a ~~third~~ fifth set of instructions for detecting a code ~~and origination of communications connection;~~

a ~~fourth~~ sixth set of instructions for deducting the cost of the communications connection from the first prepaid credit amount if ~~the origination line of a phone call is a predefined source~~ the code is the first access code; and

a ~~fifth~~ seventh set of instructions for deducting the cost of the communications connection from the second prepaid credit amount if ~~the origination of a call is the predefined source and~~ the code is the second access code.

17. (New) A method for prepaid communications, comprising:

crediting a user account with prepaid credit;

receiving a predefined condition, wherein the predefined condition comprises a plurality of origination numbers;

receiving a communications connection from an origination number;

determining if the origination number of the received communications connection is one of the plurality of origination numbers of the predefined condition; and

if the origination number of the received communications connection is one of the plurality of origination numbers of the predefined condition, then deducting the cost of the communications connection from the user account.

18. (New) A system for managing prepaid communications, comprising:
an application module operative to
credit a user account with prepaid credit;
receive a predefined condition, wherein the predefined condition
comprises a plurality of destination numbers;
detect a communications connection directed to a destination
number;
determine if the destination number of the received
communications connection is one of the plurality of destination numbers of the
predefined condition; and
if the destination number of the received communications
connection is one of the plurality of destination numbers of the predefined condition, then
deduct the cost of the communications connection from the user account.

19. (New) A system for managing prepaid communications, comprising:
an application module operative to
credit a user account with prepaid credit;
receive a predefined condition, wherein the predefined condition
comprises a plurality of origination numbers;
detect a communications connection from an origination number;
determine if the origination number of the received
communications connection is one of the plurality of origination numbers of the
predefined condition; and
if the origination number of the received communications
connection is one of the plurality of origination numbers of the predefined condition, then
deduct the cost of the communications connection from the user account.

20. (New) A system for managing prepaid communications, comprising:
an application module operative to
receive an origination number;

create a plurality of user accounts associated with the origination number, wherein each of the plurality of user accounts is associated with a different access code;

credit a first user account of the plurality of user accounts with a first prepaid credit amount, wherein the first user account comprises a first access code;

credit a second user account of the plurality of user accounts with a second prepaid credit amount, wherein the second user account comprises a second access code;

receive a proffered code;

if the proffered code comprises the first access code, deduct the cost of the communications connection from the first prepaid credit amount; and

if the proffered code comprises the second access code, deduct the cost of the communications connection from the second prepaid credit amount.